



Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
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December 11, 2014

File: MV2005L2-0015

Ms. Veronica Chisholm
De Beers Canada Inc.
Gahcho Kué Project
Suite 300, 5120-49th St.
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 1P8 Email: Veronica.Chisholm@debeersgroup.com

Dear Ms. Chisholm:

**Board Decision on Geochemical Characterization and Management Plan –
Water Licence MV2005L2-0015**

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (the Board) met on December 11, 2014 and reviewed the Geochemical Characterization and Management Plan (v.2) in accordance with Part G, item 14 of Water Licence MV2005L2-0015.

The Board requires that De Beers re-submit the Geochemical Characterization and Management Plan in accordance with the comments made during this review, as summarized in Table 1 (attached). This Plan is considered to be approved, conditionally upon receipt of this information and written confirmation of conformity from Board staff.

The full cooperation of De Beers is anticipated and appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Angela Love at (867) 766-7456 or email angela.love@mvlwb.com.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Hagen".

Willard Hagen
MVLWB Chair

Copied to: Distribution List

Attachment: Review Comment Table 1

Table 1 – De Beers – Gahcho Kue – Summary of Commitments and Outstanding Items from Reviewers to be Completed and Submitted

Table 1: Geochemical Characterization and Management Plan

De Beers Commitments				
ID	Topic	Commitment Recommendation	De Beers Commitments to be included in the updated submission	Additional outstanding items to be included in the updated submission
1	Topic 1: Section 3.3 - Overburden	<p>Comment Comment(s): Section 3.3 identifies a number of potential uses for overburden, but does not include re-vegetation. ENR understands that DeBeers is evaluating whether re-vegetation of the waste rock piles will be completed as part of closure activities.</p> <p>Recommendation Recommendation(s): 1) ENR recommends that re-vegetation be included as a potential use for overburden, until such time as DeBeers has determined that this activity will not be completed as part of the closure activities.</p>	<p>Nov 25: De Beers will address revegetation of overburden in the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan, as required in Part J. of the Water Licence. De Beers has and will continue to engage Aboriginal Parties and Regulators in the development of this Plan.</p>	<p>All contemplated uses of overburden should be included as a component of the GCMP.</p> <p>The proponent shall update and resubmit the GCMP to the Board.</p>
2	Topic 2: Section 4.4 - Closure Conditions	<p>Comment Comment(s): This section identifies closure and reclamation activities that will be conducted progressively through the operation period. While re-vegetation is not included in this list, ENR understands that DeBeers is still in the process of evaluating whether re-vegetation will be included as a closure activity.</p> <p>Recommendation Recommendation(s): 1) ENR recommends that re-vegetation be included as a potential closure activity, until such time as DeBeers has determined that this activity will not be completed as part of the closure activities.</p>	<p>Nov 25: De Beers will address revegetation of overburden in the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan, as required in Part J. of the Water Licence. De Beers has and will continue to engage Aboriginal Parties and Regulators in the development of this Plan.</p>	<p>To ensure consistency through the various plans, the Board recommends that all relevant components be included in each of the plans.</p> <p>The proponent shall update and resubmit the GCMP to the Board.</p>